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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The people of Illinois enjoy a rich heritage, steeped in history, accomplishments, and inventiveness; and

WHEREAS, Many Illinois citizens are poorly informed about our diverse history and the sacrifices of early settlers to develop and establish our great State; and

WHEREAS, The State Seal of Illinois is emblazoned with August 26, 1818, the day on which our first State constitution was adopted; and

WHEREAS, The date of December 3, 1818, the day upon which President James Monroe signed the resolution that established statehood for Illinois, remains unrecognized in our great State; and

WHEREAS, Each December 3 should be a day of celebration as well as appreciation and further study of our State history; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare December 3, 2016 as Statehood Day in Illinois; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we urge teachers of public and private
2 elementary and secondary schools in Illinois to set aside a
3 portion of December 3 in their classrooms to focus on our
4 State's early history and to make this a yearly tradition
5 hereafter; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
7 delivered to the superintendents of school districts and
8 chairpersons of all school boards in Illinois; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 delivered to Stanley D. Banash in recognition of our thanks for
12 his initiative and proposal of this resolution.